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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Agricultural Estimates
Box 1778, Boise, Idaho

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PRICES RECEIVED AND PAID BY FARMERS
May 15, 1952

IDAHO: Because of a sharp increase in the Idaho potato price, the Index of Prices Received by Farmers was at a new all-time high. At 327, the index was 4 points higher than last month's record high, according to the USDA CROP REPORTING SERVICE for Idaho.

The average price of Idaho potatoes at \$2.35 per bushel was exceeded only by April 1948, when the price was \$2.40 per bushel. Grains were off slightly as were field seeds, but dry beans gained 20¢ per cwt. Beef cattle held even at \$28.50. Hogs were \$2.00 per cwt. higher. Eggs dropped off 4¢ per dozen and butterfat was down a cent per pound.

Prices paid for feeds were mostly higher than a month ago and the egg-feed and chicken-feed ratios were considerably lower than at this time last year.

INDEX NUMBERS OF PRICES RECEIVED BY IDAHO FARMERS*
(1910-14 = 100)

YEAR AND MONTH	All Com- modi- ties	CROPS				LIVESTOCK					
		All Crops	All Grains	Fruit and Feed Vege- tables	Other Crops	All L.S. & Prod.	L.S. Prod.	Poul- try	Dairy Prod.	L. S. Prod.	Other Products
Ave. 1910-14	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1947	278	244	288	273	197	232	318	354	185	279	244
1948	287	236	266	262	198	222	346	390	193	282	285
1949	256	214	238	241	177	191	308	350	178	232	274
1950	260	196	241	231	137	187	335	391	143	231	326
1951	308	209	258	255	127	199	426	494	181	260	515
1951 May	304	192	257	244	92	194	436	506	162	259	569
June	300	188	251	242	82	198	432	502	179	259	539
July	305	201	250	241	128	200	427	496	198	259	509
Aug.	300	200	250	244	123	186	419	492	204	252	449
Sept.	306	215	249	248	168	190	414	494	207	252	359
Oct.	307	222	260	262	159	199	409	486	207	256	359
Nov.	314	243	273	290	176	211	400	467	214	267	359
Dec.	318	256	274	303	198	209	392	459	191	274	329
1952 Jan.	319	266	276	314	211	206	382	445	161	286	329
Feb.	313	260	278	306	209	204	375	438	145	293	299
Mar.	321	279	280	319	250	202	370	433	141	286	299
Apr.	323	284	280	332	245	199	368	433	141	278	287
May	327	292	275	313	306	200	369	438	129	274	287

* Prepared and published through the courtesy of the Agricultural Experiment Station of the University of Idaho.

UNITED STATES: A sharp increase in the price received by farmers for hogs was primarily responsible for a 3 point (1 percent) increase in the Index of Prices Received by Farmers. The index at 293 percent of the 1910-14 average on May 15, compares with 290 a month earlier and with 305 percent on May 15, 1951. Prices for cattle, calves, wool, corn, soybeans, most fruits, potatoes, and cabbage also increased. These increases were partially offset by lower prices for dairy products, poultry and eggs, cotton, hay, wheat, oats, barley, sheep, lambs, tomatoes and onions.

Reflecting the continued general stability in the level of retail prices, the Parity Index (Prices Paid, Interest, Taxes, and Wage Rates) remained unchanged during the month ended May 15. Living costs held steady during the month, whereas lower feed prices partially offset higher seed, farm supply, and machinery prices.

PARITY RATIO TABLE - UNITED STATES

Indexes	May 15,	Apr. 15,	May 15,	Record High
1910-14 = 100	1951	1952	1952	Index Late
Prices Received	305	290	293	313 Feb. 1951
Parity Index 1/	2/282	289	289	289 3/May 1952
Parity Ratio	108	100	101	122 Oct. 1946

1/ Prices Paid, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates. 2/ Revised. 3/Also April 1952.

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PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS AND U.S. PARITY PRICES, MAY 15, 1952

COMMODITY	Unit	IDAHO			UNITED STATES			U.S. PARITY PRICES d/		
		May 15 1951	Apr. 15 1952	May 15 1952	May 15 1951	Apr. 15 1952	May 15 1952	e/ Base Period	Effec- tive Price	Average Price as % of Parity
		D o l l a r s								
Wheat	Bu.	1.91	2.06	2.01	2.11	2.18	2.13	# .884	2.45	.87
Oats	"	.85	1.05	1.04	.889	.871	.822	# .399	g/.944	87
Barley	"	1.13	1.45	1.45	1.28	1.31	1.28	# .619	g/1.45	--
Apples	"	1.25	2.00	2.00	1.83	2.57	2.84	1.04	2.86	99
Potatoes	"	.50	1.75	2.35	1.09	2.31	2.64	f/1.12	g/1.73	--
Dry Beans	Cwt.	6.60	6.60	6.80	7.85	7.75	7.81	3.34	9.25	--
Dry Peas	"	4.50	4.00	4.50	4.56	4.04	4.25	a/	a/	a/
Hay, all**	Ton	18.50	43.50	35.70	22.90	24.80	23.40	a/	a/	a/
Alf. Seed	Bu.	32.00	32.50	31.50	24.00	25.80	25.30	a/	a/	a/
R. Clo. Seed	"	17.00	20.00	19.50	19.60	20.20	19.90	a/	a/	a/
Hogs	Cwt.	21.50	17.50	19.50	20.40	16.40	20.00	7.52	21.60	93
Beef Cattle	"	30.00	28.50	28.50	29.70	27.80	27.90	6.78	21.30	131
Lambs	"	32.10	25.00	24.80	32.50	26.40	26.40	7.48	23.40	112
Butterfat b/	Lb.	.69	.74	.73	.695	.736	.716	.277	.772	h/98
Milk c/	Cwt.	*3.75	4.00	3.90	4.26	*4.60	4.43	1.73	4.86	h/101
Chickens	Lb.	.290	.246	.248	*.290	*.260	.243	1.14	.327	74
Eggs	Doz.	.410	.360	.320	.452	.352	.342	# .215	g/.507	h/78
Milk Cows	Head	260.00	260.00	260.00	249.00	254.00	256.00	a/	a/	a/

* Revised. ** Baled. # 60-mo. average, Aug. 1909-July 1914. a/ Not published.

b/ Butterfat in cream. c/ Wholesale milk. d/ Parity prices are computed under the provisions of Title III, Subtitle A, Section 301 (a) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 as amended by the Agricultural Acts of 1948 and 1949. e/ Adjusted base period prices 1910-14, based on 120 mo. average Jan. 1941-Dec. 1950 unless otherwise noted. f/ 10-season average 1919-28. g/ Transitional parity, 85 percent of parity price computed under formula in use prior to Jan. 1, 1950. h/ Percentage of seasonally adjusted prices to parity prices.

PRICES PAID BY FARMERS

COMMODITY	Unit	IDAHO			UNITED STATES			May 15 1952
		May 15 1951	Apr. 15 1952	May 15 1952	May 15 1951	Apr. 15 1952	May 15 1952	
D o l l a r s								
Mixed Dairy Feed	Cwt.	4.20	4.65	4.60	4.14	5.46	4.55	
Cottonseed Meal	"	5.30	5.40	5.50	4.92	5.12	5.16	
Bran	"	2.90	3.65	3.65	3.61	4.05	3.98	
Middlings	"	3.05	3.85	3.80	3.83	4.11	4.10	
Laying Mash	"	5.10	5.50	5.60	4.97	5.29	5.28	
Scratch Grain	"	4.70	5.00	5.10	4.52	4.70	4.69	
Poultry Ration *	"	4.00	4.37	4.38	4.02	4.24	4.23	
PRICE RATIOS **								
Chicken-Feed		7.2	5.6	5.7	7.2	5.8	5.7	
Egg-Feed		10.2	8.2	7.3	11.2	8.3	8.1	

* Average prices paid for purchased feeds and local market prices of grains fed.

** Number of pounds of poultry feed equal in value to one dozen eggs and to one pound of chicken.

 UNITED STATES INDEX NUMBERS OF PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS
(Jan. 1910-Dec. 1914 = 100)

INDEXES AND RATIOS	Average			1951			1952		
	Jan. 1910 Dec. 1914	Jan. 1947 Dec. 1949	Mar. 15	Apr. 15	May 15	Mar. 15	Apr. 15	May 15	
<u>UNADJUSTED PRICES RECEIVED</u>									
All Farm Products	100	270	311	309	305	288	290	293	
All Crops	100	246	276	275	271	265	272	270	
Livestock & Products	100	291	343	340	335	310	306	313	
PRICES PAID BY FARMERS*									
Commodities and Services,									
Interest, Taxes, and									
Wage Rates	100	249	280	283	#282	288	289	289	
Prices Paid	100	240	272	273	272	275	276	276	
Commodities used for family									
Living	100	244	269	269	270	270	271	271	
Commodities used for									
Production	100	237	274	276	274	280	280	281	
PARITY RATIO /	100	108	111	109	108	100	100	101	

* January 1950 revision. # Revised. / Ratio of Index of Prices Received to Index of Prices Paid, Interest, Taxes and Wage Rates. This Parity Ratio will not necessarily be identical to a weighted average percent of parity for all farm products, largely because parity prices for some products are on a transitional basis.